

Message Text

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SUBJ: REVIEW OF UIA GRANT 1976-1977

1. MISOFF CHARLES STEIN VISITED ISRAEL DEC 20-28 TO EXAMINE VALIDITY UIA PROPOSALS FOR 1976-1977 FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES FROM SOVIET UNION. AFTER DISCUSSION WITH EMBASSY TEL AVIVI, EXTENSIVE EXAMINATION OF PROPOSALS WAS CONDUCTED WITH JAI DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TREASURY GILEADI, DEP DG SHARVIT, ATTORNEY GENERAL LIKHOVSKI AND UIA JERUSALEM REPS CHINITZ AND FEINSTEIN.

2. COMMENTS ON THE VARIOUS PROGRAMS FOLLOW:

A. PROGRAM I-ENROUTE CARE: NOTED INCREASE IN PER CAPITA FROM \$40 TO \$50. JAI EXPLAINED THAT FIXED EXPENSES IN VIENNA REMAIN UNCHANGED WHILE NUMBER OF REFUGEES HAS DECREASED. COST PRORATED AMONG SMALLER NUMBER OF PEOPLE RAISES PER CAPITA AVERAGE. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF \$50. ESTIMATED FIGURE 10,000 REFUGEES APPEARS REASONABLE IN RELATION TO CURRENT FLOW.

B. PROGRAM I(A)-TRANSPORT AND HANDLING OF REFUGEES BELONGINGS: THIS A NEW REQUIREMENT. DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF INCLUDING THIS PROGRAM IN ICEM LOAN FUND. REACTION WAS NEGATIVE. UIA/JAI REPS EXPLAINED THAT SHIPMENT OF BELONGINGS MADE IN BULK AND COST PER UNCLASSIFIED

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INDIVIDUAL REFUGEE NOT IDENTIFIABLE. ACCORDINGLY, LOAN ARRANGEMENT

NOT POSSIBLE. RECOMMEND THIS PROGRAM BE DELETED FROM REQUIREMENTS IF FULL \$29 MILLION NOT AVAILABLE. UIA/JAI AGREE.

C. PROGRAM V-CONSTRUCTION AND ACQUISITION OF APARTMENTS: WHILE TEXT OF PROPOSAL CLEAR, OBTAINED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT ALL 1975 GRANT APARTMENTS ARE FULLY OCCUPIED. AS SOME EX-RUSSIA REFUGEES ARE KNOWN TO LEAVE ISRAEL, INQUIRED ABOUT PROCEDURES FOLLOWED BY JAI AND ISRAELI GOVERNMENT WHEN APARTMENTS ARE VACATED. DEPARTING PARTY MUST PROVE THAT APARTMENT HAS BEEN RETURNED TO JAI BEFORE PASSPORT IS ISSUED. SUBSIDIZED APARTMENTS PURCHASED BY REFUGEES MUST BE OWNED FOR FIVE YEARS BEFORE THEY CAN BE DISPOSED OF. COST OF APARTMENTS UP FROM \$18,000 IN 1975 TO \$28,000 IN 1976 BECAUSE OF INCREASE IN BUILDING COST. DURING DISCUSSION, LEARNED THAT JAI IS HAVING DIFFICULTIES IN GETTING TITLE FROM GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL TO REAL PROPERTY ON WHICH SOME OF THESE APARTMENTS ARE TO BE BUILT. RECOMMEND THAT THIS PROGRAM BE HELD IN ABEYANCE UNTIL UIA CAN CERTIFY THAT TITLE PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN RESOLVED. WHILE JAI INSISTS ON INCLUSION OF REQUIREMENTS, UIA JERUSALEM IS OF OPINION THAT PROGRAM MAY NOT BE OPERABLE IN 1976. DEPARTMENT MIGHT CONSIDER DELETING PROGRAM IF FULL FUND NOT AVAILABLE. D. PROGRAM V(A)-RENTALS: JAI AND UIA JERUSALEM AGREE THAT BASIS FOR THIS PROGRAM IN ERROR. THEY ESTIMATE THAT RENTALS ARE NEEDED FROM 3,500 FAMILIES RATHER THAN 2,000 AND THAT THE GRANT AMOUNT REQUIRED SHOULD BE INCREASED BY 40 PERCENT. RECOMMEND THAT NEW YORK AND JERUSALEM BE REQUIRED TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES BEFORE PROGRAM IS APPROVED.

E. PROGRAM VI-UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS: NOV 26 COPY OF PROPOSAL CONTAINS TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR IN LINE 2. NUMBER OF IMMIGRANTS SHOULD READ 2,000. INCREASE FOR 1977, BASED ON INFLATION, APPEARS REASONABLE. RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

F. PROGRAM VII-INCREASE IS BASED ON RECENT TREND OF IMMIGRANTS FROM RURAL AREAS WHO REQUIRE MORE TRAINING THAN THOSE PREVIOUSLY ARRIVING FROM URBAN CENTERS. THIS PROGRAM ALSO INCLUDES THE BASIC RETRAINING OF PROFESSIONALS, E.G., DOCTORS AND LAWYERS. TEXT OF PROPOSED PROGRAM IN CONFLICT WITH PROGRAM X WHICH WAS CALLED TO ATTENTION OF UIA/JAI. AFTER LISTENING TO EXPLANATION, SUGGESTED THAT WORDING OF PROGRAM X BE CHANGED. SEE H BELOW.

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AS PROGRAM VII APPEARS TO BE MOST EFFECTIVE, RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

G. PROGRAM IX-MAINTENANCE AT ABSORPTION CENTERS: PROGRAM PROPOSAL AND PERSONAL OBSERVATION AT SEVERAL ABSORPTION CENTERS ARE SUFFICIENTLY CONVINCING TO SUPPORT RECOMMENDATION OF PROGRAM IX.

H. PROGRAM X: ABSORPTION OF ACADEMICIANS: AS STATED IN F ABOVE, WORDING OF THIS PROPOSAL INACCURATE AND IN CONFLICT WITH PROGRAM VII. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROGRAM VII AND X IS THAT VII IS

BASIC TRAINING TO BRING PEOPLE UP TO THE COUNTRY'S STANDARDS WHILE X IS FOR HIGHLY QUALIFIED PEOPLE WHO NEED NO BASIC TRAINING BUT CAN GO THROUGH THE ABSORPTION PROCESS BY DOING USEFUL ADVANCED RESEARCH OR SIMILAR WORK ON A PROJECT BASIS. IN COLLABORATION WITH UIA JERUSALEM, STEIN PROPOSED FOLLOWING WORDING-QUOTE: UNDER THIS PROGRAM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS PROVIDED TO PROFESSIONALS, MAINLY SCIENTISTS, AND PERFORMING ARTISTS WHO ARE AT A HIGHER LEVEL OF EXPERTISE AND THEREFORE REQUIRE FUNDING, EITHER FOR RESEARCH OR SPECIAL PROJECTS OF AN ADVANCED NATURE DURING THEIR INITIAL PERIOD OF ABSORPTION. END QUOTE. ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE NEXT SENTENCE, BEGINNING WITH THE WORDS QUOTE ADJUSTMENT TO WESTERN CULTURE, ETC., END QUOTE, BE DELETED FROM PROGRAM X AS IT IS APPROPRIATE TO PROGRAM VII AND NOT X. UIA JERUSALEM HAS COMMUNICATED THE ABOVE TO NEW YORK. I. PROGRAM XI-YOUTH ALIYA: WORDING OF THIS PROGRAM ERRONEOUS AND MISLEADING. AS DESCRIBED, PROGRAM IS FOR ORPHANS AND CULTURALLY DEPRIVED CHILDREN. IN FACT, AS APPLIED TO RUSSIAN IMMIGRANTS, PROGRAM PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGH SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN TO CONTINUE EDUCATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER ARRIVAL IN ISRAEL IN NATIVE LANGUAGE UNTIL THEY BECOME PROFICIENT IN HEBREW LANGUAGE. ACCORDINGLY, RECOMMENDED THAT FIRST SENTENCE BE CHANGED TO REFLECT FACTS. UIA JERUSALEM SUGGESTED AND TRANSMITTED TO NEW YORK FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL TO FIRST SENTENCE WHICH IS CONSIDERED ADEQUATE: QUOTE: OR FOR CHILDREN OF HIGH SCHOOL DUE TO LANGUAGE BARRIER OR NEED OF FAMILIARIZING THEMSELVES WITH ISRAELI PATTERNS OF INSTRUCTION AND MATRICULATION REQUIREMENTS WHILE THEIR PARENTS ARE LEARNING HEBREW AND UNCLASSIFIED

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ARE UNDERGOING OTHER ABSORPTION PROGRAMS. END QUOTE. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF RE-WORDED PROGRAM XI. INCREASES REQUESTED REFLECT RISE IN COST OF LIVING. J. PROGRAM XII-FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE AGED: PROGRAM DESCRIPTION IS INCORRECT. FACT IS THAT THIS PROGRAM REFERS TO SOCIAL WELFARE CASES AND IMMIGRANTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS REGARDLESS OF AGE. JAI IS CURRENTLY SPENDING \$15 MILLION ON THIS ACTIVITY. APPARENTLY, THERE ARE IN-HOUSE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN JERUSALEM AND NEW YORK. UIA AND JAI AGREED THAT PROGRAM SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM PROPOSAL UNTIL ENTIRE MATTER CLARIFIED. UIA JERUSALEM SO ADVISED NEW YORK. RECOMMEND DELETION OF PROGRAM XII.

3. COMMENT: FYI: MISOFF HAS GENERAL IMPRESSION WHICH HE DIS-

CUSSED WITH JAI/UIA THAT THERE IS A COMMUNICATION GAP BETWEEN
THE OPERATIONAL ELEMENTS
IN JERUSALEM AND THE HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT IN NEW YORK. APPARENTLY,
THE ORIGINAL PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS PREPARED IN FIELD ARE MUCH MORE
COMPREHENSIVE AND DETAILED. BY THE TIME THEY SEE DAYLIGHT, THEY
APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN EDITED, SHORTENED, AND IN THE PROCESS
HAVE LOST PRECISION AND CLARITY, AND AS NOTED IN PARA 2 ABOVE
BECOME SO INACCURATE AS TO BE INOPERABLE. RECOMMEND THAT UIA BE
REQUIRED TO PRESENT FUTURE PROPOSALS IN MORE DETAIL AND PERHAPS
NOT LATER THAN NOV 1 FOR THE FOLLOWING CALENDAR YEAR. BRENNAN

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